

# Agricultural Transition Update

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# BPS Reductions....

Payment Band	2021 scheme year	2022 scheme year	2023 scheme year	2024 scheme year
<=£30,000	5%	20%	35%	50%
£30,000 to £50,000	10%	25%	40%	55%
£50,000 to £150,000	20%	35%	50%	65%
>£150,000	25%	40%	55%	70%
Cumulative total amount to be redirected into delivering other schemes for farmers	£169 - 179m	c£427 - 447m	c£703 - 733m	c£970 - 1,010m

NFU supported by



# Environmental Land Management Schemes

- **Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI)**
  - Sustainable farming practices that can protect and enhance the natural environment alongside food production.
  - Universal actions across the farmed landscape.
- **Countryside Stewardship (CS)**
  - More targeted actions relating to specific locations, features and habitats.
  - ‘*CS plus*’: Supporting locally targeted actions for nature and encouraging collaboration. In time, rewarding results
- **Landscape Recovery**
  - Large scale land use change, projects from 500 to 5,000ha

## SFI Scheme – the basics

- Rolling application window
- Part farm
- Need to be BPS eligible
- Three year agreement: you must have management control
- Each standard has its own eligibility requirements
- Every 12 months from your start date you can:
  - Add more standards
  - Add more land
  - Increase ambition levels within standards
  - You cannot reduce delivery!
- Historic environment & SSSIs: subject to extra conditions

## SFI Scheme - The basics (continued)

- Quarterly payments
- Tenants need to demonstrate sufficient management control
- Cannot be paid for the same action twice
- Capital items available through Countryside Stewardship
  
- Monitoring & Compliance
  - Annual declaration
  - Field visits rather than inspections, advice provided
  - No penalties, repayments for breaches

## SFI Scheme - The basics (continued)

- Online application
- Will automatically remove ineligible land
  - Env Scheme
  - Wrong land type

## SFI 2022

- SFI 2022 agreements will end (incompatible with SFI 2023 standards)
- Compensation payment may be due
- Can apply for SFI 2023 when agreement ceases

# SFI 2023

## 9 Standards

- Actions for Soils
- Actions for Moorland
- Actions for Hedgerows
- Actions for Integrated Pest Management
- Actions for Nutrient Management
- Actions for Farmland wildlife on arable and horticultural land
- Actions for Farmland wildlife on improved grassland
- Actions for Buffer Strips
- Actions for Low Input Grassland

Plus addition  
payments

Code	SFI action	Annual payment
<b>Actions for soils</b>		
SAM1	Assess soil, test soil organic matter and produce a soil management plan	£5.80 per hectare and an additional payment of £95 per agreement
SAM2	Multi-species winter cover crops	£129 per hectare
SAM3	Herbal leys	£382 per hectare
<b>Actions for moorland</b>		
MOR1	Assess moorland and produce a written record	£10.30 per hectare and an additional payment of £265 per agreement



<b>Actions for hedgerows</b>		
HRW1	Assess and record hedgerow condition	£3 per 100 metres – one side
HRW2	Manage hedgerows	£10 per 100 metres – one side
HRW3	Maintain or establish hedgerow trees	£10 per 100 metres – both sides
<b>Actions for integrated pest management</b>		
IPM1	Assess integrated pest management and produce a plan (this action applies to an SFI agreement, rather than a specific area of land (an 'agreement level SFI action')	£989 per year
IPM2	Flower-rich grass margins, blocks, or in-field strips	£673 per hectare
IPM3	Companion crop on arable and horticultural land	£55 per hectare
IPM4	No use of insecticide on arable crops and permanent crops	£45 per hectare

<b>Actions for nutrient management</b>		
NUM1	Assess nutrient management and produce a review report (agreement level SFI action)	£589 per year
NUM2	Legumes on improved grassland	£102 per hectare
NUM3	Legume fallow	£593 per hectare

<b>Code</b>	<b>SFI action</b>	<b>Annual payment</b>
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<b>Actions for farmland wildlife on arable and horticultural land</b>		
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AHL1	Pollen and nectar flower mix	£614 per hectare
AHL2	Winter bird food on arable and horticultural land	£732 per hectare
AHL3	Grassy field corners and blocks	£590 per hectare

<b>Actions for farmland wildlife on improved grassland</b>		
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IGL1	Take improved grassland field corners or blocks out of management	£333 per hectare
IGL2	Winter bird food on improved grassland	£474 per hectare

<b>Actions for buffer strips</b>		
AHL4	4m to 12m grass buffer strip on arable and horticultural land	£451 per hectare
IGL3	4m to 12m grass buffer strip on improved grassland	£235 per hectare
<b>Actions for low input grassland</b>		
LIG1	Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs (outside SDAs)	£151 per hectare
LIG2	Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs (SDAs)	£151 per hectare
<b>Additional payments</b>		
Additional common land payment (*if a group of 2 or more people apply for an SFI agreement on common land)		£6.15 per hectare*
SFI management payment (*up to the first 50 hectares entered into the relevant SFI actions, per SBI)		£20 per hectare*

**Make sure you read the rules associated with each option !**

## AHL2: Winter bird food on arable and horticultural land

### What you'll be paid

You'll receive £732 per hectare per year.

### This action's aim

This action's aim is that there are areas of winter bird food that produce a supply of small seeds for smaller farmland birds from late autumn until late winter.

The purpose of this is to:

- provide food resources for farmland birds, especially in late autumn and winter
- encourage flowering plants in the summer, which will benefit insects including bumblebees, solitary bees, butterflies and hoverflies
- support an IPM approach if located close to cropped areas

### Where you can do this action

You can do this action on eligible agricultural land located below the moorland line. The table below sets out what land is eligible for AHL2.

Table 28: Eligible land for AHL2

Eligible land type	Eligible land use code	Compatible land cover
Arable land, including temporary grassland	<a href="#">Arable crops</a>	Arable land
	<a href="#">Leguminous and nitrogen-fixing crops</a>	Arable land
	FA01	Arable land
	TG01	Arable land
Permanent crops – horticultural	TC01	Permanent crops

# Countryside Stewardship Plus (CS+)

- Initially Nature Recovery Scheme replaced with CS+
- Pays for a wider range of targeted, specific actions
- Better application system (timing and portal)
- Flexibility
- Better access for tenants
- Link to Local Nature Recovery Strategy (Lancashire or Liverpool City Region)

# Countryside Stewardship Plus

- Capital offer
- Will incorporate England Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO)
- CS Plus/SFI/CS/ES
- Stacking?
- Increase access to Higher Tier options
- Support local join-up (co-operation)
- Rewarding outstanding results.

# Timeline

